The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An indoor unit of an air conditioner, the indoor unit having a rear portion configured to be mounted to a vertical indoor wall surface, the indoor unit comprising:

a ventilation fan;

a heat exchanger having an approximate inverted V-shape in cross-section, lines in which refrigerant flows that are connected thereto, and which is disposed so as to cover an ~~cover the~~ upper portion of the ventilation fan;

a support unit supporting the ventilation fan and the heat exchanger, the support unit including a rear end disposed adjacent the indoor wall surface when the indoor unit is mounted to the indoor wall surface, a bottom surface extending along a direction substantially horizontal relative to the indoor wall surface when the indoor unit is mounted to the indoor wall surface, an upper surface spaced upwardly from and extending substantially parallel to the bottom surface, and a tongue portion extending vertically upwardly from the upper surface to cover the ventilation fan; and

an upper casing removably mounted to the support unit to cover the heat exchanger and the ventilation fan,

the tongue portion extending upwardly from the upper surface of the support unit to a free end that is positioned above the upper surface and that is positioned at a height no higher than an apex of the ventilation fan when mounted to the indoor wall surface,

the support unit being configured such that the ventilation fan is rotatably supported on the support unit with the tongue portion adjacent the rear portion of the ventilation fan and the support unit lies entirely below the apex of the ventilation fan when mounted to the indoor wall surface,

the support unit and the ventilation fan being further configured such that the apex of the ventilation fan is visible as viewed along the horizontal direction from a rearward side of the tongue portion before installation of the upper casing and the heat exchanger and before mounting the indoor unit to the indoor wall surface.

2. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 1, wherein

the heat exchanger is disposed so as to cover front, upper and rear portions of the ventilation fan.

3. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 1, wherein

the heat exchanger is installed on the support unit on which the ventilation fan has already been installed.

4. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 3, further comprising:

an electrical component box that accommodates electrical components, and which is supported by the support unit so as to be at the height no higher than the apex of the ventilation fan; and

wherein the electrical component box is installed on the support unit.

5. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 4, wherein

the ventilation fan has a cylindrical shape, and is disposed so that a central axis thereof is horizontal; and

the indoor unit further comprises a drive device that rotatively drives the ventilation fan, and is disposed on the same axis as the ventilation fan;

wherein the electrical component box is disposed so that electrical components which take up a large amount of space amongst control components are lined up in the axial direction with the drive device.

6. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 4, further comprising:

a drive device that rotatively drives the ventilation fan;

wherein the support unit supports the ventilation fan, the electrical component box, and the drive device from below when viewed from the front of the support unit, and the lower surface of the support unit is formed to be flat.

7. (Previously Presented) A method of assembling an indoor unit of an air conditioner, the indoor unit having a rear portion configured to be mounted to a vertical indoor wall surface, the method comprising:

providing a support unit having a rear end disposed adjacent the indoor wall surface when the indoor unit is mounted to the indoor wall surface, a bottom surface extending along a direction substantially horizontal relative to the indoor wall surface when the indoor unit is mounted to the indoor wall surface, an upper surface spaced upwardly from and extending substantially parallel to the bottom surface, and a tongue portion extending vertically upwardly from the upper surface of the support unit to a free end that is positioned above the upper surface;

installing a ventilation fan on the support unit such that the ventilation fan is rotatably supported by the support unit, with the free edge of the tongue portion being positioned at a height no higher than an apex of the ventilation fan when the ventilation fan is rotatably supported thereon when the indoor unit is mounted to the indoor wall surface;

installing a heat exchanger on the support unit after installing the ventilation fan, with the heat exchanger being connected to refrigerant lines and being arranged so as to cover an upper portion of the ventilation fan when the heat exchanger is installed on the support member; and

removably installing an upper casing on the support unit to cover the ventilation fan and the heat exchanger after installing the ventilation fan and the heat exchanger,

the support unit being configured such that the ventilation fan is rotatably supported on the support unit with the tongue portion adjacent the rear portion of the ventilation fan and the support unit lies entirely below the apex of the ventilation fan when mounted to the indoor wall surface,

the support unit and the ventilation fan being further configured such that the apex of the ventilation fan is visible as viewed along the horizontal direction from a rearward side of the tongue portion before installation of the upper casing and the heat exchanger and before mounting the indoor unit to the indoor wall surface.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 1, wherein

the support unit includes a discharge port in communication with the ventilation fan.

11. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 1, wherein

the upper casing arranged to fit to an upper region of the support unit such that a horizontal intersection line between the upper casing and the support unit is formed along a front and side of the indoor unit when the upper casing is mounted on the support unit to cover the heat exchanger and the ventilation fan.

12. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 11, wherein

a rear access opening is formed between the upper surface of the support unit and the upper casing when the upper casing is mounted to the support unit to cover the heat exchanger and the ventilation fan, and the indoor unit further comprises

a back surface member removably mounted to cover the rear access opening such that the heat exchanger is concealed by the back surface member when the back surface member is covering the rear access opening, and such that the heat exchanger is viewable and accessible through the rear access opening prior to mounting the back surface member to cover the rear access opening.

13. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 1, wherein

a rear access opening is formed between the upper surface of the support unit and the upper casing when the upper casing is mounted to the support unit to cover the heat exchanger and the ventilation fan, and the indoor unit further comprises

a back surface member removably mounted to cover the rear access opening such that the heat exchanger is concealed by the back surface member when the back surface member is covering the rear access opening, and such that the heat exchanger is viewable and accessible through the rear access opening prior to mounting the back surface member to cover the rear access opening.

14. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 13, wherein

the back surface member is configured and arranged to be installed on the indoor wall surface to support the support unit and the upper casing.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of assembling an indoor unit of an air conditioner as disclosed in claim 7, wherein

a rear access opening is formed between the upper surface of the support unit and the upper casing when the upper casing is installed on the support unit to cover the heat exchanger and the ventilation fan, and the method further comprises

removably mounting a back surface member to cover the rear access opening such that the heat exchanger is concealed by the back surface member when the back surface member is covering the rear access opening, and such that the heat exchanger is viewable and accessible through the rear access opening prior to mounting the back surface member to cover the rear access opening.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of assembling an indoor unit of an air conditioner as disclosed in claim 15, further comprising

installing the back surface member on the indoor wall surface to support the support unit and the upper casing.

17. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner disclosed in claim 12, wherein

the back surface member is configured and arranged to be installed on the indoor wall surface to support the support unit and the upper casing.